(b) was any amount spent for it without the sanction of the Legislative Council; if so, what is the amount and from which item was it transferred;

(c) had the Legislative Council omitted this item from the budget for 1103 and had the Government accepted the reduction before issuing the final budget?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) The budget allotments for 1103 and 1104 were Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 10,500 respectively.

The amount spent in 1103 was Rs. 14,514=2=5, and the amount spent in 1104 up to the end of Edavam was Rs. 11,761=13=7. It is expected that a sum of Rs. 750 will be spent before the work is closed.

(d) A sum of Rs. 2,011=13=7 will have to be spent in excess of the budget grant for 1104. In 1103 there was a saving of Rs. 485=13=7 (in the revised estimate figure).

(c) The Council carried a motion for reducing the provision of Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 20,000 and the Government accepted the reduction.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Was sanction of this Council obtained for this excess expenditure in 1104?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The work is not yet closed. No sanction for the extra expenditure involved was received.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Was it that no sanction was asked for? May I know how much money has been spent after Edavam?

President.—I think this is not an item which has been cut down and the cut restored by the Government.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—In 1102 it was cut down.

Rs. 40,000 was budgetted and asked for and it was cut down to Rs. 20,000 by the Council.

President.—That is, there was an amendment of the allotment like that and that motion was carried. There was no certification after that with regard to that matter, I suppose.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—No certification.

President.—So that stands on a different footing from the other Rs. 20,000.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Yes.

Supply of stationery to M. L. Cs.

178. **Mr. C. J. Mathew.**—Will the Government kindly state whether they have considered the desirability of supplying Government paper and stationery including carbon paper to the non-official Members of the House, to be made use of in their

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correspondence with the Secretary to the Council ; and if so, with what result ?

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Yes. Members are now supplied with stationery articles for any work they may have to do in the Council during the sessions. Government regret that anything more than this is not feasible.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—In this connection, Sir, I wish to bring to your notice that the Members of the Madras Legislative Council are supplied with covers, envelopes, letter paper, and all that. So I request that the same may be done here also.

Special fund for irrigation.

179. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(1) has not the attention of the Government been drawn to a very statesmanlike arrangement made by the Government of Mysore of organising a special fund for irrigation works ; and

(2) has not the organisation of a similar fund been proposed by Rao Sahib Kasturi Ranga Ayyar in his dissenting note on the Report of the Special Finance Committee ;

(3) what orders do Government propose to pass on his proposals for organising a special fund for irrigation ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) There was some reference to the matter in the papers.

(2) Yes.

(3) Nothing definite can be stated at this stage.

Audit Report of the Southern Divisional Forest Office.

180. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to place on the Table of the House the audit report of the accounts of the Southern Divisional Forest Office for the 1st quarter of 1103 with the connected report on the accounts of the Office of the Conservator of Forests ?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—The report is still under the consideration of the Government and cannot be placed on the Table at this stage.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know when was this report submitted to the Government by the Comptroller of Accounts ?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—I cannot say the date.

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